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COUNTRY Korea
SUBJECT North Korean Treatment of Refugees

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1. Former officials of North Korea who have gone to South Korea are still carried on the investigation lists of the North Korean Democratic Youth Party. Monthly reports on their activities and those of their relatives who remain in the north are turned in to higher authorities. Similar checks are made on religious personnel and some civilians who have fled to the south.
2. The Bureau of Internal Affairs issues statements to relatives remaining in the north to the effect that their family member has been executed by People's Guerrillas in South Korea. They also threaten that all individuals who have fled south will be killed when the People's Army occupies South Korea.
3. Any recipient of a letter from South Korea is immediately visited by a member of the Bureau of Internal Affairs and is taken into the local bureau office for severe questioning. North Koreans whose sons or relatives have joined the South Korean army or police force are interrogated especially about affairs and activities in the south and are urged to offer information received from their contacts there.
4. In addition to these measures, relatives of South Korean refugees are particularly liable to military or labor conscription.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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